Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Ralph O'Neill was born on November 18, 1907, to Fritz and Lola O'Neill near Folsom, South Dakota, the first of seven brothers; and,

Whereas, Birthdays commemorate the first day of our lives, and we celebrate the birthdays of those we love as we recognize the joys and sorrows we have shared, the strength we have gained from the obstacles and hardships we have conquered, and the small daily pleasures life offers; and,

Whereas, Ralph married Charlotte Roebuck in December 1937, and to that union four children were born, Ken, Eileen, Charlene, and Randy; and,

Whereas, Ralph graduated from the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology and was employed with the South Dakota Department of Transportation for 38 years surveying for mapping purposes. Ralph extended his career working for Aaron Swan & Associates and retired at the age of 89, giving him a remarkable 60 years of experience in the engineering field; and,

Whereas, Ralph is an active member of the Custer community and an avid fan of the Custer Lady Wildcats and the School of Mines Lady Hardrockers; and,

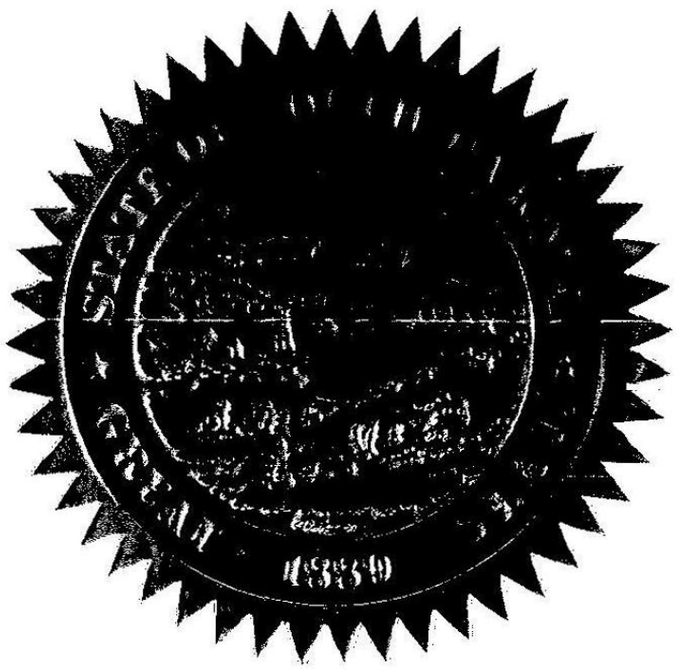
Whereas, Ralph enjoys spending time at his brother's ranch near Folsom working in the garden and spoiling his five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; and,

Whereas, Ralph will observe his 100th Birthday with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants, as his friends and relatives gather on November 14th in Custer and November 24th in Rapid City, to honor him and celebrate his life and the camaraderie of the day; and it is fitting and proper for the Governor to make note of this milestone in the life of a man who has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim November 18, 2007, as

RALPH O'NEILL DAY

and I join all his friends and relatives in wishing him a very happy birthday, good health, and great happiness.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Eighth Day of November in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Seven.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State